IN THE CLAIMS

1) (currently amended) An apparatus for connecting electrical components comprising:

- a substantially annular keying element having a ribbed outer surface;

- a first grounding element;

- a second grounding element configured to receive said first grounding element;

- a body element configured for connection to a printed circuit board, said second grounding element extending from said body element;

whereby, said first and second grounding elements provide a ~~grounding connection~~ ground path to a predetermined ground ~~upon connection of said keying element to said predetermined connector and said body element to said printed circuit board~~.

2) (previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said keying element comprises a standardized connector.

3) (previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 2 wherein said standardized connector further comprises a FAKRA compliant connector.

4) (previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said first grounding element is removeably mounted upon said second grounding element.

5) (previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 4 wherein said first grounding element comprises an annular grounding element.

6) (previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 1 wherein said body element further comprises a printed circuit board jack.

7) (currently amended) An apparatus for connecting electrical components comprising:

- a keying element comprising a standardized connector ~~adapted for connecting to a predetermined connector via~~ having ribs on an outer surface thereof;

- a substantially annular first grounding element;

- a substantially annular second grounding element configured for connection with said first grounding element;

- a body element jack having mounted thereon said second grounding element, said body element jack configured for connection to a printed circuit board;

whereby, said first and second grounding elements provide a grounding connection to a predetermined ground ~~upon connection of said keying element to said predetermined connector and~~ when said body element jack is connected to said printed circuit board.

8) (previously presented) A method for connecting electrical components comprising:

providing substantially first and second annular grounding elements and a FAKRA electrical connector having a ribbed outer surface, the second grounding element provided upon a body element;

inserting the first grounding element over the second grounding element;

inserting an end of the FAKRA connector through the first grounding element; and

coupling the FAKRA connector to the second grounding element, thereby providing an electrical connection and ground for the FAKRA electrical connector.

9) (previously presented) A method for connecting electrical components comprising:

- connecting a first grounding element to a second grounding element,

whereby said second grounding element is mounted to a body element jack adapted to connect to a printed circuit board; and,

- connecting a keying element having a ribbed outer surface to said body element jack;

so that any electrical connection created by connecting said keying element to said body element jack is grounded by said connection of said first grounding element to said second grounding element.

10) (currently amended) An article of manufacture for connecting standardized RE electrical components to a printed circuit board, comprising:

a keying element ~~configured for receiving a predetermined electrical~~ connector;

a body element jack configured for mounting to a printed circuit board and comprising an annular second grounding element extending therefrom, said second grounding element comprising a mounting surface;

a first grounding element connected to said second grounding element; and

said keying element connector fastened to said mounting surface.

11. (previously presented) An electrical connector comprising:

a body element having a first portion configured to be mounted to a printed circuit board and a second portion comprising an annular grounding element extending therefrom;

a standardized connector comprising a keyed outer surface and configured for removable connection to said annular grounding element; and

an annular grounding gasket surrounding said grounding element and situated in between said first portion of said body element and said keyed outer surface.

12. (previously presented) A right angle electrical connector comprising:

a body element comprising a first surface configured for mounting to a printed circuit board and a second surface configured for mounting to a standardized keying connector, said first surface and said second surfaces substantially perpendicular to one another;

a grounding element extending from said second surface and comprising a substantially annular member projecting from said second surface;

a grounding gasket fitted over said annular member; and

a standardized keying connector inserted through at least a portion of said grounding gasket and removably coupled to said grounding element.

13. (previously presented) A right angle electrical connector comprising:

a body element comprising a first surface configured for mounting to a printed circuit board and a second surface configured for mounting to a standardized keying connector, said first surface and said second surfaces substantially perpendicular to one another;

a grounding element extending from said second surface and comprising a substantially annular member extending therefrom, said annular member including cut-out portions therein;

a grounding gasket fitted over said annular member; and

a standardized keying connector inserted through at least a portion of said grounding gasket and engaged to said grounding element via the cut-out portions.